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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nordhoff, Eckhard et al.

Title: METHOD AND DEVICES FOR DEPOSITING SAMPLES  
ON AN ELECTRICALLY SHIELDED SUBSTRATE

Completion of: PCT/EP2004/011878

Docket No.: 40200-10060  
Customer No.: 021788

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents (DO/EO/US)  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicants wish to amend the claims of this application prior to  
examination.

The claim amendments start on page 2 of this document.

Remarks start on page 7 of this document.